

AN
EXPERIMENTALL
DISCOVERIE OF
SPANISH PRACTISES.

OR
THE COVNSELL OF A
well-wishing Souldier, for the good of
his Prince and State.

WHEREIN
IS MANIFESTED FROM KNOWN
experience, both the Cruelty, and Policy of the
Spaniard, to effect his own ends.

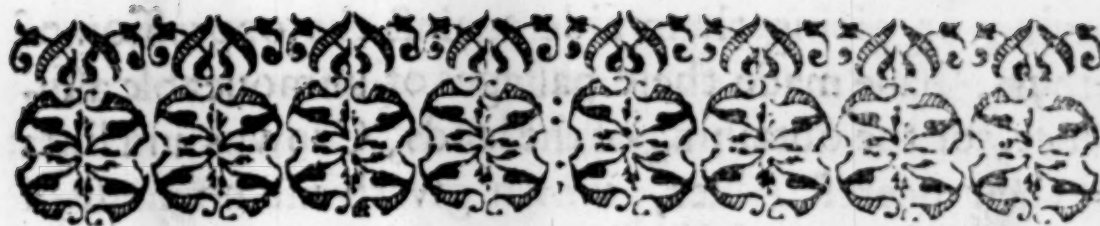
CHIEFLY
Swelling with multiplicity of glorious titles, as one
of the greatest Monarchs of the earth, that being admired of
all, his greatnesse might amaze all, and so by degrees
seeking covertly to tyrannize over all. When
as indeed and truth, the greatest part
of his pretended Greatnesse, is but a
*windy crack of an ambi-
tious minde.*



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The Publisher to the Reader.

GEntle Reader, although in respect of the Authours absence, the Copie now presented be not so complat throughout as it should; yet because (as we say in the prouerb) Delaies are dangerous, specially in matters of moment; and hoping it is not materially defectiue in any thing, from the perfectest Copie or Authours minde, I haue presumed to publish it as it is, wishing no lesse good successe, then the Author himselfe intended; and so desiring my upright meaning may be accepted in good part by the Courteous Reader, I bid thee Farewell.



A DISCOURSE

TENDRED TO HIS MAIESTIE

King of Great Britaine &c. touching some

*Spanish practises to serue their
own ends.*

THE motiue of this Discourse, most renoun-
med Soverain, which at this time I intend to
handle, for that it hath relation to two ends or
periods, to wit, peace and warre, the one much to be
preferred before the other, as well by divine, as human
Arguments; yet for that the time agreeing with the
necessity, we are in regard of the feare of the Spanish
greatnesse hereafter, which undoubtly he will attain
unto by the innumerable masses of his Indian treasures,
which are the nerves and sinewes of all martiall in-
tendments, by which fair opportunities offered unto
the greatnesse of his desire, for the enlargement of his
state, glory and renoume, and that there may be no
object that may impediment the let thereof, but onely
a determination in himselfe not to offend his neigh-
bours, I shall hardly beleue that he will so much differ
from his Progenitors, I mean *Ferdinand, Charles* and
Phillip, who raised not the faime of the Spanish Monar-
chie, by just, noble and laudible warres, but by cruell,
bloudy and treacherous invasions, especially against
Princes of their own bloud; who under pretence of re-

lieving or giving them aide against the oppression of others, haue made these passages of unmoueable assurance, for the obtaining of the lands, Crowns and liues of their neereft Allies, which giveth me no cause of hope of his good dealing towards your Highness, and the States, who are neither allied unto him by bloud, as these former Princes were, nor tyed unto him by offices of Confederacie, whereby for former good turnes received he might let you liue in peace: but contrarily, we being onely the stop of the Spanish fury of this part of the world; and a Nation who haue not onely given him infinite disgraces, as well by open battell, as sundry invasions and incurfions, made upon his frontier Townes and Territories, to the irrecoverable dishonor of the Spanish people, and unmasking his former forces to all men; which indeede are but a meere shew, and frightening them onely; knowing their Greatnes depends with filling the world with an imagination of their Mightiness. For the Spaniard may well be compared to a drumme, or empty vessell; that being beaten upon makes a great and terrible noise; but come neerer them, breake them, and looke into them, and there is nothing within can hurt you. Or rather like the Asse, that wrapt himselfe in the Lyons skin, and marched a farre off, to strike terrour into the hearts of the beasts, but when the Fox drew neere, hee not onely perceived his long eares, but likewise discovered him and made him a jest to all the beasts of the Forrest. So that I inferre (most gracious Soveraigne) that unlesse he now prevaile with you, and by that meanes gaine a peace to make himselfe more strong for a fitter
time

time to hunt you and your neighbours; his forces at this time, in respect of you and your Confederates, are so weake and resistable, as it may well appeare unto your Highness, that his Monarchy is rather maintained by Opinion then Might; as it hath ever stood since the losse of the low Countries (if it had beene with judgement exquisitely looked into) rather by giving out greater rumours of power, and by secrecie, then by the greatnesse of their owne forces: So as to make this Shadow a Substance, whereby not onely his Indies should be sure, but all the world tremble at his greatnesse. What oath is it that he would keepe? What condition that he would not breake? Or, what opportunity that he would let slip for the accomplishment thereof, if thereby he might assure himselfe of the Ile? And therefore, though I commend peace before warre; yet if the Countrey cannot obtaine a good peace without a warre, I thinke it consequently followes, that it is necessary for you to make a warre with your enemy, whilest you haue the advantage in your hands, whereby you may lay a foundation of a sure peace for your Selte, Posterity, and State for after ages; rather then to dreame of a peace which shall no longer hold, then he is able by breaking to revenge: For doubtlesse in the preservation of Kingdoms, it is no injurie to doe that to your enemy which he would doe unto you, if he could. And therefore those Princes, States or people whosoever, that shall build so firmly upon the condition of peace to be kept by the enemy, the breach whereof may turn to his or their great danger or destruction, that Prince, State or people, in my opinion haue either little

the judgment of themselves, or are ill advised of the Councell: Securitie of their own estates, or too much fidelity to others, haue not onely been the destruction of many families, but likewise of great and potent Kingdoms, Provinces and Towns. And therefore to this day, there could never be found so great safety, to private men, or publique States, as mistrust; as appeareth by *Demosthenes* in his second to the Athenians against *Phillip of Macedon*. There are (quoth he) devised
 “ many strengths and defences for the maintenance
 “ of Cities and Townes; as Trenches, Walls, Ram-
 “ parts, Dikes, Bulwarkes, and such like, the which
 “ are made by mens hands, with great cost and charge:
 “ but nature (saith he) hath giuen to all wise men a
 “ common defence and safegard; the which as it
 “ is profitable to all men particularly, so it is a most
 “ wholesome and sure hold and fortresse, to all
 “ Countries and Cities, against all manner of tyran-
 “ nie, and what fortes to mistrust, that which if it
 “ be well and surely kept, it will preserve and keep
 “ you all. And therefore to prevent danger in a con-
 venient season, and to provide in time against the
 worst, is a thing most wholesome, necessary, and
 worthy of greatest commendations: For as fore-
 sight makes men wary, so confident suspicion help-
 eth judgment, and bringeth to light many hidden
 practises: and those that doe not feare the complots
 of their enemies, nor regard of forces preparations
 against them, are doubtlesse neere some disastrous
 fortune, or extreame ruine of their estates and for-
 tunes.

How prejudiciall their treatise of peace haue ever
 been

beene to such Princes or States with whom they haue contended, is most evident, as well to us, as other Nations, as appeares by their *Armado* in 88, who came with fire and sword to cut the throats of the people of this land: (had not God prevented their treacherous resolutions.) At the selfe same time they had entertained us with a maineshew of a desire of peace, and our Commissioners being with them for the same purpose. As also when *Ferdinand* of *Aragon* the last, and *Phillip* Archduke of *Austria* were in treaty of marriage of Madam *Stawdy* of *France*, with *Charles* the fifth; and after was concluded, sworne and confirmed at *Blois*, the King of *France* being *Lewis* the twelfth; his Lieftenants mistrusting nothing in respect of the premises, the *Spaniards* set upon them, defeating two *French* Armies, the one at *Calabria*, under the conduct of the Lord *D Aubigney*; the other at *Cernigolt*, led by the Duke of *Nemmers*; by which treacherous overthrow of these two noble Captaines, by *don Consolis de Cordua*, called the great Captaine Commander of the *Spaniards* in these parts: they arrested from the French, most of the peeces in *Italy*, which they keepe untill this day. And therefore howsoever other men be opinionated of the Spanish faith and fidelity with your Majesty and State, yet for my part, I will thinke of them, and their promises, as a Noble man of *Athens* thought of
 “ a certaine Oratour. Your wordes (quoth he) my
 “ friends are like the Cypresse, which although great
 “ and high, beare no fruit. And truely, as they are
Spaniards I cannot well blame them; for they well know, that the Crowne of *Spaine* is at stake, and all
 B the

the Indies, and his other Signiories, and therefore will not faile to put in practife all tricks that may win the game, though it be by foule play. For if he haue not peace with *England* at this time, it is not unknowne unto him that the foundation of his Monarchy will be shaken in peeces. And we cannot but see this, and yet will take no advantage thereof, whereby we may secure our selues both for present and future times; we may be compared to the *Athenians*, of whom I haue spoken before, who by *Titus Livius* report were men, *who knew what to doe, but would not doe it*: which is a fault so ominous to all states, that it not onely presenteth it selfe against; but likewise followeth disasters and ruine to the Commonwealth that refuseth. For opportunitie doth not attend upon Captaines and Councillours pleasures, but sheweth it selfe on a suddaine; and if not imbraced, passeth away without returning: And therefore the advantages that one State, that are enemies hath of another, happen so seldome to the Globes, as *Saturn* finisheth his course but in 30 yeares. But our enemy is free, and I speake it to his honour, from this base and earthly resolution; for it is reported of them, by this speciall vertue, they haue raysed their state to so high a pitch: which is, that no people can readier finde the occasion, or sooner take, or resolue it, when it is offered. And doubtlesse, to say the truth, I am much more fearefull of the *Spanish* proceedings, for that he goeth by precedent: which is an excellent kinde of discipline, as well in Martiall as civill actions; especially when the action is grounded upon a sure foundation. And as all Kings
and

and Captaines which desire to ataine to great things, doe imitate some one Prince, or Generall that hath preceeded them : so doubtles haue the Kings of *Spaine* for these many yeares, imitated in all their actions (as neere as the time and States with whom they haue contended would giue them leaue) that noble, valiant and politik Captaine *Phillip* of *Macedon*, who indeede laid the foundation of his sons Monarchy, and this was his Maxime, That *where force could not prevail, he alwaies used bribes and mony to corrupt the principall of the inhabitants*: Insomuch that at a certaine time at the assault of a Citie, which to a Captaine of his seemed impregnable, and therefore thought to di-
 “vert his purpose in the besieging thereof. Thou art
 “a foole (quoth he) for I will haue this great Citie,
 “notwithstanding the walles and ramparts, if the
 “Gates be so big that an Asse laden with gold can
 “but enter. And questionless, if your Majestie would but search into the *Spaniards* proceedings, since he had the Indies, you should acquaint your selfe with many such presidents of their part, to be a warning to you to looke at this time advisedly to your owne safety, lest you fall into the like misfortunes. And although I could alledge many which (for brevitie sake) I omit, yet I will recite one (lest it should be thought I knew none) which is, *viz.*
 “When *Ferdinand* of *Aragon* saw, by the sword he
 “could not get the countrey of *Roussillon* and *Perpignan*, out of the hands of *Charles* the French King,
 “which as they say had beene ingaged to *Lewis* the II,
 “he fell to practise with them of Religion; wherefore
 “he corrupted with a great summe of money one

“*Oliver Maillander*, as some say, *Iohn de Madron* a
 “Franciscan Frier, Confessor to the Lady *Brammen*
 “the Kings sister, who vnder the roote of Religion,
 “cloaking his hypocrysie and coveteousnesse, per-
 “swaded this simple Lady, that unlesse restitution
 “was made of those Territories to the King of *Spaine*,
 “his government could not prosper, nor please God;
 “she being moved in conscience with this Friers
 “perswasions, brake this matter to *Lewis* of *Amboise*
 “Bishop of *S. Albie*, the Kings Schoolemaster, who
 “together with her, so terrified the Kings conscience,
 “that hee not onely made restitution of the said Ter-
 “ritories, by the said Bishop, but likewise freely re-
 “leased to the King of *Spaine*, the said *Ferdinand*, all
 “the money that *Lewis* his father had paid for them :
 “Marry with condition, that the said King and his
 “Successors should ever loue and honour the King of
 “*France*, that he should make no warres against it,
 “nor aide with money, victuals nor counsell, any ene-
 “mies thereof, nor permit them to haue passage
 “through their Dominions. And thus were the
 countries restored to the Frenchmens grieve. But
 the French King misreckoned himselfe in the *Spa-*
nish fidelity, for having occasion to warre in *Italy*
 shortly after, he was no sooner past the Mountaines,
 but the King of *Spaine* forgot all his kindness, and be-
 gan to practise a league with his enemies. So as *Lir-*
ferre (mighty Prince) that either by shew of Religi-
 on, or subtle and sophisticall Arguments; or in desire
 you haue to trust some about you, on whose shoul-
 ders ever (in regard of your opinion of their wise-
 domes and fidelities) you cast your selfe, and your
 care

care of your estate, in all, or either of these, you are like without the more grace of God, to receiue disadvantage in this your peace-making (and yet perhaps no fault in them.) For it seemes to me wonderfull, that the truth of things being one; yet may falsehood be so apparelled with the habits of likelihood and truth, as (changing countenance) it is often retained in stead thereof. And for as much as upon this Treatie now in hand, not onely dependeth your owne happines, the happines of your noble Issue, States, Kingdomes, Subjects, or whatsoever else is deer unto you; but likewise the happines or unhappines of all the Princes of Europe. So (most gracious Lord) in respect of these great and mighty dependances, as well in respect of your owne particular, as generall good of the Christian Common-wealth, which so long hath groaned under the feare of the *Spanish* greatness, digest and distinguish every particular; and in a point, in your owne person, without trusting of any man with a matter of great importance: which although it will be very intricate by the diversitie of so many things as will offer themselves to be considered, yet (renoumed Soueraigne) it will be very profitable to your Highness, and most acceptable and pleasing to the people, when they shall heare and see the great care the King hath of them and their safety: For as *Commynes* saith, hee thinketh it the greatest plague that God can lay upon a Realme to giue them such a Prince as shall in great things giue his Authority unto others, which most especially in such a case as this hee ought to referue unto himselfe. Although I confesse Princes

ought to haue Ministers in all things, especially in great matters, but not to conclude any thing without the Princes assent; nor with him neither, but by the relation of many circumstances, in regard of that affinity which truth and falsehood haue in many matters of great moment. And yet I protest out of my owne opinion, I am no way jealous of any of the Councell; foras for them I hold them to be all most noble and worthy personages, and fit to manage great Kingdomes, as part of the Indies, and other Seignories: which are as fit for you to take, as the King of *Spaine* to keepe; which by your just command and valour of the *English* and *Scottish* Nations shall be gained unto you and your posterity; without which, whatsoever your Selfe thinketh, or other men say, neither you, nor your posterity can ever be safe, upon probable and reasonable grounds, if the *Spaniards* intend to disquiet you, as I will now my selfe proue; and as these following projects made by the *Castilian* themselves, may appeare, by the necessity they are in to be

“Masters of the Ile, *viz.* That a mighty King, determining to preserve his owne, hath no better meanes
 “then by conquering that of another mans; alwaies
 “holding this as a Maxime. That whosoever preserveth getting nothing, neither by keeping his own,
 “can subdue the will of peruerse men, that they may
 “not be able to make him a disturbance. These reasons ought more to preuaile with your Majestie
 “(quoth he) then with any other Prince, since you
 “hold your great State much dispersed, and the greatest part of your power consists in things moueable
 “and uncertaine, which are the Indian Fleete; which
 neither

“ neither Garrisons, Fortresses, nor any good proce-
 “ dings can hardly assure; although your Majesty had
 “ great forces and power: as at this present we may
 “ well perceiue by this Pirat *Drake*, who with nothing
 “ is able to molest the whole world, notwithstanding
 “ the provisions which are made on your Majesties
 “ behalfe for the preuenting thereof. Wherefore (saith
 “ he) let your Majesty entertaine an enterprise against
 “ *England*; which both is, and may be the principall
 “ disturber of your Indian Flecte and Commerce.
 “ Neither let your Majesty suppose there can be a bet-
 “ ter or safer way, for the quiet of States, or the ad-
 “ vancement of your certaine Greatness, then by re-
 “ moving this Mountaine of Disquiet to your most
 “ high and Kingly purposes, and conquering of this
 “ Ile. As also *Don Phillip* the second, of *Castile*, having
 “ a great and earnest desire to make himselfe Master
 “ of this Ile of the world, and perceiying two obsta-
 “ cles to curb his proceedings in that kinde; to wit, the
 “ warres of the *Netherlands*, and the Icalousie of this
 “ State of ours hath ever had of his Greatness; and
 “ being desirous to haue the fountaine of this happi-
 “ ness to spring from one of those two heads deter-
 “ mining to build this resolution, which with most
 “ ease, most honour, most safety, and most advantage,
 “ might be carried to his after designes. Vpon consi-
 “ deration whereof, and mature deliberation, reasons
 “ were alledged *pro & contra*, amongst which, in my
 “ judgement, some are most preuailent reasons, and
 “ such doubts as the Spanish King from the mouth of
 “ him who made Reason his ground, and Experience
 “ his schoolemaster for what he said, and are following.

“ It is my determination in this present Discourse (said
“ he) to shew, as your renoumed Seigniorie comman-
“ deth me, by way of Reall foundation, that it is much
“ more expedient for that purpose of your Catholike
“ Majestie to moue your war against *England* then the
“ *Netherlands*, declaring thus much notwithstanding
“ reall foundation in this pnt, I meane not common
“ principles of nature, or of science, neither of Ma-
“ thematicall demonstrations of this present subiect,
“ is not capable, but rather reasons probably groun-
“ ded upon truth. There are many, who but obser-
“ ving the first view of your Catholike Majesties in-
“ terest to *Flanders* and *England* affirm, that though this
“ Iland by just pretention pertaineth to your Majestie,
“ yet you are so much the more bound to recover
“ those countries of the *Netherlands* rather then con-
“ quer *England*; by how much by all policy, the prefer-
“ vation of things already possessed, must goe before
“ things neuer injoyed. But though this be a great po-
“ sition in publik affaires, yet we intreating of mat-
“ ters of State (I) will not judge it of that weight
“ as that it may weigh down the ballance; which gal-
“ ling the one side more then the other, might im-
“ paire the whole summe and safety of things. Wee
“ must consider what ought; but farther how it is pos-
“ sible, more profitable, more easie, more expedient
“ to be done: For oftentimes Princes are so pricked to
“ warre by the stimulation of honour, or of their de-
“ sire to some enterprise, as that the bridle of many
“ other circumstances, which would requisitely be
“ considered cannot draw them back. For an example
“ of this, we may set before our eyes the *Venetian*
Common-

" Common wealth , who thinking of nothing else
 " but their duty to be revenged on the Duke of *Mil-*
 " *lain* , preferred immoderate ambition before all
 " other respects; and so, to late, remembred, that the
 " office of prudence, is to moderate passions, and spleen
 " in important resolutions : especially when they draw
 " after them a tail or train of great inconveniences.
 " The consideration thereof; that we are more bound
 " to preserve the things we possesse, then conquer
 " new, is not sufficient to conclude that your Majesty
 " ought to take in hand the enterprize of *Flanders* rather
 " then *England*; neither in that so importunate affaires
 " should we seeke occasions so light. But to the end it
 " may appear evidently, that in every respect your Ma-
 " jesty is bound to the enterprize of *England* , I will
 " before any thing establishe a foundation to that
 " whole edifice of my opinion, *viz.* That in subduing
 " of *England* , you overcome at the same time the *Ne-*
 " *therlands* also; but having overcome the *Netherlands* ,
 " *England* is not presently subdued; neither doth per-
 " adventure the hope increase that you shall after con-
 " quer it. But I affirm moreover, that to conquer *Eng-*
 " *land* is not an action more difficult, or lesse certain,
 " then if it were the *Netherlands*: For if *England* doe
 " consequently draw after it the *Netherlands*; and if it
 " be more easie and more secure, who doubteth, but
 " he that should pervert this course would be a right
 " destroyer of Opportunity; and so become the forger
 " of his owne disgrace. But I will proue with prevail-
 " lent Reasons, that one and the other member of my
 " foundation, which is, that the victorie of *England*, is
 " more profitable then that of the *Netherlands*, & more

" easie to obtain. As for the prooffe of my first foun-
 " dation, I betake my selfe to these principall heads.
 " The first is: If the *Netherlands* had not maintained
 " warre so many yeares, but by the aide and succour of
 " *England*; that which hath still supplied fewell to the
 " flames and fire of the rebellion: For if *England*
 " would but fail them, it is cleer, they could not stand
 " out; no more then a living body can be preserved
 " without nourishment, and it is more securely extin-
 " guish't by taking away the maintenance and nourish-
 " ment thereof, then by striving to quench it by his
 " contrary: For having no nourishment at all, the vio-
 " lent heat is used against it selfe, and so by it selfe con-
 " sumed: but we determining to overcome it by the
 " contrary, it may fall out, that instead of extingui-
 " shing it, the force of it may be much increased, if the
 " contrary be subdued by the same: And therefore the
 " *Florentines* then and not before, quenched the fire of
 " the *Pisen* rebellion, when they took away the fewell
 " and nourishment from it, which came from stran-
 " gers, by cutting off Princes their Collegates, and
 " the gaining their Citie in one action; which other-
 " wise all their own force, and their Confederates
 " would not have been sufficient to obtain. The other
 " is; for if *England* with her succours which shee send-
 " deth, not onely maintaineth the *Netherlands* secure,
 " with the bare hope of her shadow: for they count
 " themselves in banishment, as it were, while they see
 " before their eyes the *Spanish* forces; and so would still
 " doe, if they did not know the *English* will alwayes
 " be ready to buckle with any one, that with a mighty
 " Fleet should passe by these parts. In this respect the

Atte-

“ *Athenians* thought themselves sure from *Phillips*
 “ force, while the Town of *Obinton* stood out; and so
 “ on the contrary, when the *Olintons* were overcome,
 “ then saw they no impediments that could keep the
 “ enemy from them. Even so, if *England* should fall
 “ into the hands of your Majestie, the whole founda-
 “ tion of the rebells obstinacy were shaken, the for-
 “ tresse and back being removed, by favour of which
 “ they haue daily nourished the spirits of pride and in-
 “ solencie: so as the soule and spirit yeeldeth, *England*
 “ being taken away; we may peceiu that the conquest
 “ of the *Netherlands* is easily brought forth by the vic-
 “ torie, as her lawfull daughter; and that the end fol-
 “ loweth not as the daughter, or as the other being her
 “ mother, but even as inseparably, as the shadow
 “ the body, or nourishment the life. As also this rea-
 “ son which I will now recite, is infallibly grounded
 “ upon the direct rule of Art Millitarie: which is, that
 “ you ought never to imploy your selfe in the assault
 “ of any place, if there reman still at your back a
 “ a mighty meanes of some disturbance: Wherefore it
 “ is no sound deliberation to fasten first on the enter-
 “ prise of the *Netherlands*; when you leaue one ill-
 “ affected on your back, which peradventure may sud-
 “ denly assail and breake through in the midst of the Ca-
 “ tholike Army, in the heart of the warres with the
 “ *Netherlands*. *Charles* the 5, his attempt in *Province*
 “ had unhappy successe, for no other cause but that he
 “ contemned the advise of the Marquis *Masto*: which
 “ was, that first, before any thing, he should expugne
 “ the Fortresse. But that resolution being not taken by
 “ *Charles*, was no lesse pernicious to the Imperialists

“ then to the author of that Councell, *Antonio de*
 “ *Leva*. An other reason is, attempting the warre up-
 “ on the *Netherlands*, you come to buckle with braue
 “ experienced Souldiers, and men brought up in
 “ warre; as on the contrary, the *English* want Art
 “ and Discipline Millitarie. I may giue the same
 “ comparison, that may be made between Idleness
 “ and Experience; armed and unarmed; and how
 “ advantagious it is to fight with unskilfull Souldiers:
 “ Amongst many other; the example of *Meliades*,
 “ in the field of *Marathon*, sheweth evidently;
 “ who with lesse then ten thousand braue Souldiers,
 “ put to flight the force of unhappy *Xerxes*, who
 “ had more then six hundred thousand with him. An
 “ other is, that the *Netherlands* must be conquered by
 “ handfulls, and haue full, or whole Armies employ-
 “ ed in beleagering this or that Fort; otherwise per-
 “ adventure of no great importance; but as it may
 “ be a stop to his course of victory, that goeth about
 “ to seiz upon the Country. Whereas contrarily *Eng-*
 “ *land* hath no strong Towres or Fortresses; as well
 “ within as without: there is no doubt of that en-
 “ terprise, and is much more easie then this; as it is
 “ a lesse matter to overcome them that doe not
 “ resist, then those that doe fight upon warlike
 “ advantages. There is no better example to be pro-
 “ duced to your Highnesse, then of the selfe same
 “ Countrie of the *Netherlands*, in which, notwith-
 “ standing that your Majestie hath placed such
 “ strong Garisons, yet at every step such prevailent
 “ accidents doe occurre, that oftentimes the Assay-
 “ lants are overcome, by the often oppositions that
 these

“ these Fortresses use towards them : Even as on the
“ contrary, the Kingdom of *Portugal*, there being
“ no convenient Fortresses to giue impediment
“ to the forces of the Souldiers, were suffered to
“ enter into the very heart of the land; they being
“ not able to make any manner of defences to
“ defend the same. Another reason is, for that the
“ Fortresses are as prejudiciall to the Assaylants, after
“ they haue obtained them, as they were before, by
“ reason the Conquerour is forced to distribute his
“ Army into many members, by which they are greatly
“ weakned. So that, by this that hath been spoken,
“ it may appear, that it is much more convenient; nay
“ as it seemeth, much more easie for your Highnes to
“ push at *England* then the *Netherlands*; and therefore I
“ will discourse of that Enterprise, not in comparison
“ of the other, as heretofore I haue done, but in respect
“ of it self; manifesting certain principles, which doe
“ better declare and make manifest the opportunity &
“ facility therof. In my opinion therefore it is a thing not
“ to be doubted, if medicine is then truely so called
“ who'esome, when it hath reference, not onely to the
“ offended part or member, but further to cut off the
“ root of the evill. And therefore if your Majesty shall
“ enter into the conquest of the *Neitherlands*, you but
“ peradventure cure the wounds of that rebellion, but
“ you shall not evacuate the causes of the beginnings of
“ these ill humors. which haue daily sent nourishment
“ to the disease. considering *England* is the place which
“ hath given sustenance to the rebellious States. And
“ though these Provinces were yours of this present
“ disposition; yet what can that be, in a body subject to

" continuall suggestion of matter, which in it own na-
 " ture presenteth in the stomach some portion of offen-
 " siue humour: Your Majestie must therefore necessari-
 " ly assault *England*; to the end you may afterwards ei-
 " ther securely digest, or evacuate these concourses.
 " But to discourse more at large of the facility of the
 " enterprize; I deny not truely but that *England* is a
 " very mighty Kingdom; and the greatest Iland that
 " ever we finde any mention made of by the Anci-
 " ents, seeing it containeth *Scotland* within the same,
 " running 2000 miles in a circuit, although our mo-
 " dern Writers make a computation of 200 lesse. By
 " Nature it hath been favoured with a security of a
 " wall, or with a rampart: but yet notwithstanding
 " it is most true, that the reputation that that Iland
 " holdeth in warlike actions, is rather grounded on
 " that it was in times past; then that which it hath at
 " this present: and therefore as it often happeneth,
 " the minde grown great, with the bundles of ima-
 " ginations wherewith it is maintained, though the
 " foundation wheron it dependeth be changed, and
 " diminis hed: Yet for all that, is the estimation of
 " *England* great in our minds; because wee all behold
 " it with the selfe same eye of consideration, as wee
 " are wont to doe at all other times; when as in an-
 " cient, for succession of more then 300 yeares, it
 " possessed *Normandie, Britaine, Guienne* and *Gascoigne*,
 " and made *Scotland* tributary, and for a long time
 " enjoyed the most part of the Kingdom of *France*,
 " upon which *Henry* the 6, was publicquely crowned
 " at *Paris*. But those that haue diligently observed
 " her, now when shee is deprived of so great forces
 and

“ and aide, wil judge that shee is greater through
“ the reputation of her ancient fame, then for the
“ quality of her present power and force: and that
“ shee is now no more *England*, so grievous and ter-
“ rible to the greatest Princes of *Europe*; and since
“ that with so unhappy a resolution she fell into ob-
“ scurity, shee hath been driven of necessity to sub-
“ mit her selfe to those fearfull things, which altera-
“ tion of Religion and faith draw after them. A most
“ mighty and prevailent meanes to the ruin and de-
“ clination of States: For if Religion be the onely
“ base of all the peoples obedience and loyalty, who
“ doubteth, but that being removed, all rule of life
“ goeth to the ground; and together all lawes, both
“ Divine and Human haue dispensation. In which
“ parties, or rather habites, of this most pernicious
“ beast, are most miserable, how much the mutations
“ haue been sudden and violent; as about all other,
“ these of *England* haue been, which from the height
“ of Religion threw it selfe headlong into the depth
“ of Infidelity; from thence rising againe into the
“ Catholike light from whence it came; and a fresh
“ to fall ruinaously into the darknesse of heresie:
“ which is so prejudiciall unto State, as there is no
“ greater pestilencie; or that more weakens the soli-
“ dity of their forces. *England* therefore in these out-
“ ragious stormes must needs haue suffered ship-
“ wrack, of which we may plainly see the effects,
“ if wee doe but obserue shee hath lost the foundati-
“ on, whereupon no lesse her reputation, then secu-
“ rity was grounded: that is, shee hath lost the power
“ and authority which somtimes shee had in sea-
“ affaires

An Experimentall Discovery

" affaires; for in times past this Iland maintained a
 " great number of Shippes, and kept a continuall
 " Fleet of Armes, whereupon it came to passe; that
 " minding to try the strength of her own forces, the
 " preparation was admirable; amongst others wee
 " may see that when *Henry* the sixth of *England*,
 " went against *Charles* the sixth of *France*, with neere
 " eight hundred great Shippes, which made a bridge
 " over the Ocean: but the quality of that Iland is
 " so diverse, and changed, that since the dayes of
 " *Henry* seventh and eighth, it hath not been able to
 " maintain one hundred ordinary Ships; which it was
 " wont to wey, and haue in readinesse for the secu-
 " rity of the State: and further, this Iland hath been
 " put to such pinches, that they haue not onely been
 " constrained to diminish, but to sell out-right a great
 " part of their Shipping, which both was, and is,
 " their onely securitie from forraign danger: so
 " much more urgent in Princes is feare of present po-
 " verty, then the respect of their future safety. So that
 " now, comming to resolute on the point of facility,
 " that your Majestie shall now finde in that Enter-
 " prise against this Iland, I will offer to your Highness
 " two principall heads; the one of the Defendant,
 " the other of the Assaylant, wherby I will shew, that
 " the assayled is as unable to defend, as the Defend-
 " ant is to assaile. As for the Defendant (which is
 " the Kingdom of *England*) it may certainly be aver-
 " red, that it cannot stand out in defensiu warre
 " against the forces of your Majestie, if you will
 " but invade it with the provisions, which is easie
 " for you to compass, and such as the Enter-
 " prise

“prife, and importance of the action requireth, the
“which I will cleerely shew for diuers respects. The
“first is; because, as I haue said, the Ile of *England* is
“poore; and therefore is her debility such, as if she
“should goe about to manage a defensue war against
“so mighty and potent, as your Catholike Majestie,
“she might as well goe about to sustaine heaven
“on her shoulders, being neither *Alcides* nor
“*Atlas*. The second is, for the consideration of
“the necessitie which possesseth there the State of
“*England*; hath no more in readinesse such num-
“ber of shippes as were sometimes maintained for
“the protection and security of their Kingdom.
“The third is, that the Kingdom of *England*, by care-
“lesnesse neglected, or by povertie omitted, to
“haue alwaies in readinesse; prepared, or practi-
“sed Men, Armes, or prouision, as all other
“Princes haue, to the end they may be a present re-
“medy to all suddaine Insurrections, which groweth
“either at home or abroad. The fourth is, because
“the desire of Innouation is proper to the King-
“dome, whose mindes doe alwaies aspire after
“change; and whosoever doth but obserue for-
“mer histories, will judge that her seditious con-
“spiracies, and every other effect of a disturbed and
“moving minde, haue had their proper nest; being
“stirred up with considerations, which being accom-
“panied with the ordinary disposition of the people,
“to be alwaies attempting of new things, may ea-
“sily of a suddaine, if it were assaulted, put the
“Realme into confusion; especially when the Ar-
“my of so mightie an enemy as your Majestie,
D shall

“ shall present it selfe, wherby rebels may liberall y
 “ discover their hearts without being chastised. So as
 “ this people being any way ill-affected, which meet-
 “ ing with their manner of disposition, may perad-
 “ venture easily giue occasion, if your Majesty had
 “ no party in *England*, which you shall never fail off
 “ to some vnlooked for action, if your Catholike Ar-
 “ mies did but shew themselves. It being so ordina-
 “ ry a matter with that people, when they are masked
 “ with some great passion, either of hatred or disdain
 “ towards them that govern, that they will be ever
 “ ready to take all courses in hand that may be hurtful
 “ to him: Euen so that *Tantanus* discontented with
 “ government of *Cajus Iberius* brought in before his
 “ face the *Carthaginians*. First, the *English* in respect
 “ of their ancient greatnesse, haue been more accusto-
 “ med to molest others, then to be molested them-
 “ selues; and when they shall see themselves over-
 “ whelmed, as it were, with an innumeration of braue
 “ Souldiers and Captaines, they will grow wonder-
 “ fully astonied: euen as that change of fortunes
 “ countenance is a terrible spectacle to those to whom
 “ this sight is unusuall: for by that meanes *Greece*
 “ which was sometimes Emperesse of the whole East,
 “ fell suddenly into other mens hands; who of an
 “ Assaylant, became assayled. And lastly, though
 “ nature get thus much in behalfe of them, that *Eng-*
 “ *land* be well furnished with Armes, men, victuals,
 “ and ships, and whatsoever else is necessary for the
 “ warres; yet (say I) all this is nothing, when the
 “ quality and condition is wanting, which giueth
 “ form and essence to all enterprises; which is mony:
 “ which

“which the Kingdom of *England*, no lesse through
 “the scarcity of Revenues, as by the charge of ordi-
 “nary expences is brought unto; which they shall
 “neuer be able to recover, by their Trades and Com-
 “merce, if the use of the sea be taken from them:
 “and therefore will never be able to supply expence
 “of a defensive Army Royall, when it hath scarcely
 “enough to supply their own necessaries; especially
 “against so great and magnificent a Prince as your
 “most Catholike Majestie, who embraceth within
 “the circuits of your Dominions, the whole Diame-
 “meter of the earthly Globe, and possesseth more
 “land at this day, then all the Monarchs and Repub-
 “liques of the world haue: A most opulent Prince
 “in Armes, Men, Mony, Souldiers, Captains, Shippes,
 “Victuals, and all other provision of warre: and a
 “Prince, who like a Moderator, or Arbitrator, seem-
 “eth to hold in his hands, the bridle of Empire, both
 “of the sea and land. And wheras it may be objected
 “that the Gallies which doe you no service in that
 “expedition, being vessels of great consequence in
 “battels by sea: your enterprise of *Portugal*, and of
 “the Iland, if it did not quite remoue it; yet did it
 “much abate the superstitious credulity of ours, that
 “those Vessels are not good at any time to passe the
 “Ocean withall; as if there were no faire weather in
 “that sea in the Summer; or that fair weather were
 “abortiue in shipping: there is no doubt but that
 “Gallies may securely passe, and hazard themselues in
 “that Sea in the Summer, for three moneths: And
 “those that will object the contrary, by the over-
 “throw of the Sea there, let them be contented to ob-

"serue well, that the same Anchor met not with
 "no inward, but outward occasion, in the sea of that
 "overthrow : For *Cesar* ignorantly could not dis-
 "cern the time of the Moon which was then in the
 "full, and being mistaken by reason of her too much
 "humidity, doth use to disturb, not onely the
 "Ocean, but all the coasts, and the dominion shee
 "holdeth of the salt waters. And therefore in respect
 "of the great honesty and equity accompanying the
 "cause; with it so honourable and godly life, as
 "the planting the Christian faith and religion,
 "no obstacle can be sufficient to stay the force of
 "divine power, serving under the standerd of
 "Christ; and therefore most weake, and but a
 "shadow shall all humane helpe bee which shall
 "oppose it selfe against the will of the great Ar-
 "bitrator. But such as are the pretentions of your
 "Majestie over this Kingdom, and such the obli-
 "gations wherein you stand bound for the recovery
 "of your own, the title of a Grandfather and Prede-
 "cessours of famous memorie; as there is no en-
 "terprise so peculiar and proper for you to under-
 "take as this : for that you goe not onely to pos-
 "sesse your selfe of the right which you haue
 "to this Kingdome, but likewise to make your
 "selfe the most famous King that ever was in the
 "memory of all the Princes of the world; adding
 "by this meanes unto the Crowne of *Spaine*, a
 "Kingdom so illustrious, so mightie, and so fa-
 "mous.

By the relation of this *Spanish* project, against this
 State of *England*, most Illustrious Prince, may well
 appeare

appeare unto your Highnesse, that the *Spaniard* himselfe well knows, that there is no way for the expectation of his further Greatness; no great possession of the high Monarchy, which he himselfe alledgeth that he already enjoyeth, but the conquering of this Ile, and adding it to the Crown of *Spain*; and therefore, if he had any other meanes to attain to this, by him so violently longed for, then by a peace: why should not your Majestie thinke, that the peace hee meanes to make with you at this time, is for that purpose, and for no other intent? And therefore, my good Lord, I cannot, as one standing upon the firme land, gaze upon the shipwrack of my Countrie, being so doubtfully tossed, and floting in the dangerous sea of dissention, betwixt peace and warre, with one that will make a peace with you, for no other end and purpose, but that hee may bee the better able to make warre heerafter against you. But to cast out the last anchor hold of my selfe, which is boldness and freeness of speech to you (my most renoumed Sovereign) to prevent if I can these extreme and certain dangers, wherein both your Selfe, your States, and glory of the English and Scottish names, are likely to be plunged, when the *Spaniards* ability shall be such, as there shall bee no let, but his good nature, to insult over you: which howsoever your Highness, or others, think contrary, will in foure or five yeares, if he enjoy his *Indies* be brought to passe. Surely, my gracious Sovereign, I am of opinion against *Philip* of *Spain*, in the behalfe of my Countrie,

as that noble Common-wealths man *Demosthenes*, against *Philip* of *Macedon* in behalfe of the *Athenians*; which no doubt hath much affinity with our case at this time. For *Phillip* seeing whilst he had warre with *Athens* (at which he principally aimed) hee could never overcome the other Prouinces of *Thebeans*, *Lacedemonians*, *Thessalians*, *Ithocians*, *Ointans*, and the rest, and till they were overcome he could never get *Athens*, began to take another course: which was, to bribe with mony and gifts, Councellours or Orators of that State to be of his side; and by that means to be secure from the forces of that Republique or Common wealth, till he had, by one and one, overcome the rest. But good *Demosthenes* perceived him by and by, and warned the *Thebeans* of that Treason; but these traitors of *Phillips* Faction being grown great in the Citie, by meanes of the bounty they had daily received for rewards of their treason; as also the *Athenians* were then, as we are now, not willing to hear of any warres or change to be brought against them; which alwaies these Traitors joyn with the multitude, in assuring them that *Philip* of *Macedon* meant them no harm, was the onely cause that all the other Provinces aforenamed were overcome; but also the noble and stately Citie by him and *Antepator* his successour. And therefore since that like examples, whilst the world doth last, will bring forth like effects, I will be of *Demosthenes* minde; if since we cannot shunne the warres with *Spain*, either at this time, or hereafter, when he hath made himselfe more strong; either by the conquest of his neighbours, or otherwise: that you should begin with him whilst
you

you haue the advantage of him; and then you shall by proefe finde how profitable it will be unto you; when you must needs doe a thing, to doe it with a courage and cheerfulness, And forasmuch as there is no man of another minde, but that we shall haue the King of *Spainie*, by so much more our mighty enemy, the greater Princes suffer him to be. Oh why be we so backward, or why linger you oh noble King, the great Commander of the braue spirits of the *English* and *Scottish* Nation, to doe that in reason and necessity you ought? Our fathers, when they were Masters but of one part of this Ile, were never wont to fear any thing in matters of warre, but if the skie should fall upon them, sailed over many a Sea to make their weapons glister in the bowels of other Kingdoms; being by the honesty of their actions, and nobleness of their courage assured. And shall your Majestie, by whose blessed arrivall to this part of your Ancestors, and having brought home once again in your ship of Vnion, our brethren and kinsmen, no lesse valiant then our selues, being descended from the bloud of our Ancestours, and turned from us by the iniquity of time, and dissentions of some mutinous persons of either part; which we must not account proceeded by consent of both people; neither measure the intents of great Nations according to the notable wickedness of some particulars? Shall you I say, who hath renewed again the ancient fame of this Ile (by which, for valour, for men, for munitions, for engines, for warre, no Prince under heaven can lightly compare) be doubtfull to undertake a warre to which you are so necessarily incited; as well for
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the glory of God, the aduancement of Christian Religion in all parts; as also your particular safety, which can never be certain to You, nor us your posterity, but by the abatement of the Spanish greatness, by means wherof many murders, massacres, and rebellions haue been made in Europe. No no (my renoumed Sovereign) be it farre from your magnanimous minde, to harbour a thought so unworthy that vertue, that shinerh so apparant in all mens eyes; but rather since the nature of the Countries, the inclination of the Subjects, and the valours of the people, doe seek to overcome the violence of the enemies; let them be seconded by the Kingly command, under which word, there is no question of victorie. Your Predecessours of famous memory, undertook these warres upon discreet, and premeditated considerations; not onely chewed for many yeares together, but likewise digested by the experience of time, Conclusions of the *Spaniards* part of diuers things against this State, and probability of many more dangers like to ensue, both against the people and country: And therefore (most renoumed Sovereign) if the addition you adde in your own Greatness and Person, to this your right inheritance of *England*, be not sufficient to alter the consideration of your former policies, in my minde; you ought to be well-advised, before you stray from the pathes of your Predecessours, who built their onely safety upon the preservation of the *Netherlands*, and abatement of the *Spaniards* Greatness, as by diuers excellent reasons, wherupon they undertook openly these warres, may appear. But perhaps it may be said, that the person of
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the Prince doth alter the pretence of the enemy. I hope I shall need to say little on that point, to so highly wise, learned and judicious a Lord, as your Highness; especially when it is apparant to your Majesty, that the *Spaniards* build their certein Greatness upon no one thing so much, as the ruin and destruction of this land, as by their foregoing projects appeareth. But moreover, if they could not loue the Princes of their blood, race, and kindred; as the King of *Naples, Sicily* and *Navarre*, whom they not onely deposed from their Kingdomes; but likewise some of them from their liues, under no pretence of reason or justice; but onely thirsting after blood and Seigniories, I shall infinitely mistrust his regard of the safety of your noble and fortunate Issue. And if your Majesty will goe by precedent (which is most fit to most actions that doe minister themselves to men) and but examine how the Monarchy of *Spaine*, hath but rayfed himselfe to his Greatnes, you shall no doubt perceiu (by comparing time past, with that which is like to follow) the irrecoverable dangers you are like to fall into, by making peace with them, that for advantage, will hold it Religion to break with you. And for that, from *Ferdinand* of *Aragons* time they haue begun to render themselves so fearfull to their neighbours, which as it were yesterday, your Highness may acquaint your selfe with their unjust actions, which are fresh in memory to their unchristianlike wounds, given to many Christian Princes, still Bleeding; whereby you may the better discern and distinguish them. For as *Ferdinand* himselfe, which was the root from whence their Princes sprang, there was no King in his

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time

time more unjust, more cruell, or more bloudy, thirsting after bloud, and breach of faith with all Princes, with whom he had to doe; although they were his Cosen germanes; his brother in law, his Sisters and Nieces; and indeed laid his foundation of the *Spanish* Monarchy upon such base and treacherous foundations: For *Charles* the fifth, how hee behaved himselfe in his time amongst the Princes of Christendome, I cannot more aptly referre your Majestie to a briefe relation thereof, then by an Oration made by a worthy Gentleman, who had particularly acquainted himselfe with the accidents of that time, which hee wrote, and dedicated to the two yong Earles of *Emden* long since. For *Phillip* the second, what bloud hath hee caused to be shed both in *England*, *Portugal*, *France*, the *Netherlands* and *Ireland*; is it not knowne to all Christian Princes? Besides, the often seeking of the innocent bloud, of that most noble, and thrice renowned Predecessour of famous memory *Elizabeth*, Queen of this land, which if, so it were, there were no other witnesse of his Goatish and Moorish inclination (as there are thousands) were it not enough to enroule and memorize him in the ranke of unworthie and tyrannous Potentates? For *Phillip* the third, although hee bee yong, yet is hee a *Spaniard*: and whatsoever the wisest of the world haue ever thought of the nature and quality of a *Spaniard* is apparant: For *Francis Quickehardine* (a man so sufficient, as the very reckoning of his very worth and perfections would require

"require a story) faith of them. The Spanish
 "Nation are covetous and deceitfull, and where
 "they bee at libertie, exceeding outragious, ty-
 "rannous, and very proud and insolent. And *And-
 drew* . . . a famous Senatour of *Venice*, faith
 "of them; That they are unfaithfull, ravenous,
 "and the most unsatiabable of all Nations: For
 "where is it (saith hee) of all the places of the
 "world, where these infamous Harpies set their
 "feet, which is not defiled with the foot-steps
 "of most abominable vices; and yet the shot of
 "their Pistols doe so dazell the eyes of many in
 "this land, that they are vot ashamed to defend
 "them to be the most noble, most faithfull, most
 "honourable Nation in the world. Another writes
 "of them; That they are loathsome Swine, thee-
 "vissh Owles, and bragging Peacocks: For (saith
 "he) whosoever would behold the liuely portra-
 "ture of them, without troubling himselfe with
 "the overturning of *Martial* or *Terence*, let him but
 "behold the grim speech of a stately *Spanyard*. By
 whom, most mightie Prince, I may well say, and
 according to truth, that the world of *America*
 was not so much unknown to the former ages, as
 their monstrous outragious, and new devised cruel-
 ties, which these divelish and tyrannous Spanyards
 haue unhumanely practised amongst the simple and
 innocent people, as appeareth by *Don Bartholmew de
 la Casas* Bishop of . . . and other of their own
 Historiographers. And although my selfe, being
 a stranger, which haue some time served against
 them, both in the Indies and else where, could say

much of their cruelties , by relation of such their
 slaues as I haue taken , yet for that my eyes haue not
 seen them, I will forbear in modesty to charge them;
 onely I will relate, from the mouth of a true repor-
 ter, a worthy Gentleman of this land , Sir *Francis*
Drake, one truth; that by that, your Majestic might be
 induced to belieu the rest. Hee once talking with me
 “ of the *Indies*, told me, That he being in the South
 “ Sea, after he had taken his prize, he had thought to
 “ haue ventured to haue come home by the North-
 “ ward, and stood his course to the Ile of *Canes*, be-
 “ in 12 degrees of the North latitude , and from
 “ thence to *Aqua Palce*, upon the maine, being 16 de-
 “ grees , at one of the poore townes of the Citie of
 “ *Mexico*; where going a shore, he found an old *Ne-*
 “ *gro*, tyed in a chain of 20 yards long , which had
 “ been condemned by the iustice of the place; for that
 “ sometimes being oppressed with too much labour,
 “ the poor old man would runne into the woods, and
 “ absent himselfe from his Majesties work; his sen-
 “ tence was, that he should be whipped, with whips,
 “ till he was all raw and bloody; and afterwards being
 “ tyed in a chain to be eaten with flies; which poore
 “ soule hee released from that miserable death, and
 “ took him away with him : And therefore oh *Turke*,
 “ oh *Scythians* , and *Tartarians* , rejoyce yee now all,
 “ since now, there is to be found at this day a Nation
 “ in Christendome , which by the unhappy and cur-
 “ sed behaviour, doe increase the hatred that men
 “ haue born to the barbarous and ungracious cru-
 “ elties. And therefore, most renowned Sovereign,
 I should be sory, in regard of the premises, that you
 should

I should commit so great a fault in the government of
 the great and mighty Kingdoms, which is not sufferable
 to a private Captain over a few souldiers, to say,
I doe not thinke it: so when hee hath by his own temerity,
 or fool-hardinesse, committed an action for want of due respect,
 to the subjects, undertaken that hath made him disastrous,
 and unfortunate in his honour, and the times of his people,
 (which desire rather to giue them received Lawes For
 the desire of honour to advance States and enlarge Kingdoms,
 is naturally grafted in the hearts of all Princes of noble spirits;
 and there was never any King, of a worthy and high courage,
 but desired to leau to his posterity the memory of some noble and
 worthy action (as the *American* world) by doing wherof,
 you shall not onely procure safety to your selfe, and those that
 shall succeed you in your Royall Seat, but generall happinesse
 to so many millions of people, which at this day sit in darknesse
 and the shadow of death; and is a thing so farre from discom-
 mendation or reproach, as you shall be so qualified in all
 succeeding ages, with the most happy, most gracious, and
 most fortunate Princes of the world. But yet I doe not deny,
 but Princes may haue such grounds and reasons to trust
 some private men, or forraign Princes, as being deceived by
 them, and they should say, *I never would haue thought it*, yet are
 not worthy of reprehension: as for example; That Prince
 ought not to bee blamed, that hath put in a Fortresse
 some one Captain; or place, in a Country some one Prince,
 either of which haue received goods or honours from him,
 and yet in the end is betrayed

by them , and heereupon the knowledge thereof
I should say, I would never haue thought it, that such
a man would haue betrayed me, that Prince is not to
be blamed; as it happened to *Lewis Morre* Duke of
Millaine, who having committed the Castle of the
Citie to one *Damerdine Couet*, whom he had so abso-
lutely raised, and made obliged to him by infinite
graces and benefits; yet notwithstanding was by
the said *Couet* betrayed to his perpetuall dishonour
and infamie. This Duke was no way to bee blamed.
As also your Majestie ought not to be reproved, who
providing for every mischiefe, is assailed by some
strange accidents, that was not possible for your
Majestie, in judgement or counsell to foresee, or
prevent: as being not possible with reason to fore-
see a thing, which of it selfe is a thing without rea-
son. As for example, was that most grievous acci-
dent of the powder, and other munition, prepared
to be sent to diverse places before the Castle gate of
the said Citie, which tooke fire, and was burnt by
lightning from heaven when the weather was fair
and cleer, wherby afterward ensued to the State so
many losses and discommodities: upon this occa-
sion, if the Captain of the Castle should haue
said, *I had never thought that this weather would
haue brought so great and unfortunate a chance to me,*
hee had deserved no reproofe at all. But if be-
fore your Majesties eyes, it be apparant, that a
manifest knowne enemy to the State, who as *De-
mosthenes* saith, hates the verie Religion of *A-
thens*, who hath not onely long thirsted after the
Seigniorie of your Kingdome, in his secret de-
signes;

signes, but likewise by open force of fire and sword hath assailed them; If you will trust such an one, and after upon his breaking say; *You would not have beleev'd, that the King of Spaine would have dealt so with you* : Doubtlesse (renowned Sovereigne) the world will not faile to taxe you with such carelesnesse and improvidence, as I hope I shall never have any affinity with your most Excellent Majestie, or any other of your Royall Off-spring that shall sway the Scepter of this noble Ile. And therefore (my gracious Lord) in my judgement; you ought to doe in this, so great a matter of State, as concluding a peace with so dangerous enemies as the Spanish Nation, as good and wise Carpenters seeme to doe in substantiall buildings; which is, to make a sure foundation, ~~test~~ by aspiring minde or breach of the enemy you be overthrown. And where as he saith in the foregoing project, that hee hath right and good title to the Crowne of *England*, by vertue of his Grandfather and Predecessours (which I know to be otherwise) yet contrarily can I proue your Majestie, by the vertue of your Grandfather of famous memory *Henry the 7*, to bee as rightfull Heire to all the firme land of the *Indies*, as the King of *Spain*, is to the Ilands of *Cuba*, *Jannura* and *Hispaniola*, with the rest of the Ilands of *Lucanes*, *Graxte*, and *Antile* : and for that it is not inconvenient fully to take notice, and understand how these Kings intitles themselves and their Successors to the right and Signiories of the *Indies*, I have thought good to set down my opinion, how many waies they

they doe, or may take their claim: And first by discovery; secondly, by the Popes gift; thirdly, by consent of the people; fourthly, by conquest and consent. So as if neither of these, be able to proue or giue a good and sufficient title (or at least such an one as may barr you and other Princes that will, to inhabite in those parts) I know no reason why your Majestie should not doe as he hath done; that is, to possesse as much as you can of those *Heathen Countries*; especially where the *Spaniard* is not seated, nor hath no command: wherby you might not onely propagate the Christian faith, amongst those Pagans and Infidels, as you are bound to doe, as much as you can; but a golden world to the Crown of *England*: wherby you be more enabled, as well to undertake a forraign warre against the enemy of the Christian name; as also to make your State the more strong by the *Indian* treasures, against such of your neighbours as shall envie your Highness. And therefore to come to this Title: If he claim his interest by possession, and first Discovery (which doubtless must be the strongest Title that he can challenge) then your Majestie hath as much title for all the firme land of the *Indies*, as he hath for these Ilands before named. As for prooffe of this, the Captaines of *Henry* the 7, being *Sebastien Cabot*, and his companions, discovered the Iland of the *Indies*, on the north part of the *Indies*, from 60 degrees, coasting the north latitude; the very year before *Christian Columbus* discovered the high land of *Dania*, on the south part of the *Indies*; which was the first day that ever the *Spaniards* saw the maine, and tooke possession of that new Discovery in the behale of *Henry* the

the 7, and his successours their Lord and Master. So as if first Discovery and Possession be his Title, your Majestie preceeding him in that said Title, must necessarily preceed him in the right thereof. If he claime it by the gift of Pope *Alexander* the sixth, then it must be argued whether the said Pope had power to giue it; yea, or no; if not, then the gift is voide in it selfe: If yea, he must proue it either by Divine or Human Arguments; for Human he cannot, for that no way belonged to him, or any other Christian Prince or Potentate, at that time; nor were so much as ever heard of, before that present Discovery of *Columbus*, upon which the gift was made in the year of grace 1492. All things never known to him, or his Ancestors, can no way of right belong to him or them; so as not belonging to him, directly or by circumstance, hee had no right to giue or dispose thereof, either in present or future, and thus for Human. For Divine Arguments; if he say he gaue them as Christs Vicar, wherby he may dispose of Kings or Kingdoms, he must proue that authority by the word of God, or else we are not bound to beleue him, or think his gift of any value: As for example, if hee be but Christs servant heer on earth, he must challenge to himselfe no more prerogatiue then his Master took on him whilst he was on earth; for if he doe, it is a great token of pride and arrogancie: And our Saviour being but requested to make a lawfull diuision of a certaine inheritance betwixt one and his brother, refused to doe it; saying, *who made me a Iudge over you*: as also he confessed openly to *Pilate*, That his *Kingdome is not of this world*. Why then doth

the Pope, who acknowledgeth himselfe to be no better then his servant, take upon him the giuing of so many Kingdomes of this world. But the Popes say they gaue *Ireland* to *Henry* the 2, and his successours: and indeed they did so in word; but when had he it? when he had fast footing in it, and when *Dernitins* the King of *Lemster* had made the King of *England* his Heir. But for all that donation, had not the Kings of this land, by the sharpnesse of the sword more prevailed, then by this gift, the Popes donation had stood in little stead; neither did the rest of the Irish Kings admit or allow of the Popes Donation; for, if they had, they would never haue rebelled so often against this Crown. But to conclude this point; though we confesse, that the Popes haue done this, or that; yet it is no good argument, in my opinion, to say that they did it, and therefore it was lawfull, unlesse they could shew they did it rightfully. But the Popes gift of the West Indies, may well be compared to the Sermon of Iudge *Molineux* his Chaplain in Queen *Maries* daies, who would make it appear, by a liuely text out of the Scripture to his Parishioners, what a lying knaue the diuell was: and for his Text, he took the place where the diuell took Christ, and carryed him up to the mountain, from whence he shewed him all the Kingdoms of the world; & told him, if he would fall down and worship him, he would giue them all unto him.

“ My Masters (quoth he) by this you may well perceive what a lyar he is; for he had no more right to
 “ haue given him these Kingdoms (if would haue fallen down and worshipt him,) then my selfe, that
 “ am now in the Pulpit. If I should say to you all
 now;

“now; Sirs, if you will all fall down and worship
 “me, before I goe out of the Church, I will giue eve-
 “ry man his Copie-hold for ever; which if I should
 “doe, I should giue you your livings in words: But
 “my Masters (quoth hee) that sit there below to
 “whom they belong, would take them from you
 “again: And therefore (saith he) if he had given all
 “these Kingdoms to Christ, the Kings of the earth,
 “to whom by right they did pertain, would never
 “haue suffered him to haue injoyed them. And so for
 that... *For the earth is the Lords, and all that dwell therein,*
be founded and prepared it, as in the Psalmist: and so
 consequently, neither the Popes, nor the diuels, doe
 dispose to whom they please. The copie of which
 foolish donation of the Popes, truely translated out
 of the originall, hath been delivered to your Maje-
 stie long since, and (I hope) perused before this
 time. To proue that he hath no generall consent of
 all the people and Nations of the *Indies*, appeareth
 most evidently, by this reason; for that no *Spaniard*
 farther inhabiteth northward then *Florida*, where
 they haue but two little Forts or Villages, the one
 called *S. Austine*, the other *S. Helena*: All the rest
 of that huge tract, whose infinitenesse is such, (as no
 mortall tongue can expresse, nor eye hath seen,) doe
 not so much as think there is another world but that
 they themselues inhabite, except some few of them
 which dwell upon the edges of the shore, that some-
 times see both us, the *French*, the *Dutch*, and the *Spa-
nyard*, when we come a fishing, but are not able to
 distinguish of us, but think us all one people: then
how can we imagine, that these people haue freely
 given

given themselves to the Spanish obedience, and acknowledge him for their Lord and King, when they never so much as heard that there was such a man or Nation. Againe, from *Capi culli formia*, all the land that runneth and maketh the strage of *Anian*, and the Netherlands thereof, whose bounds and limits are never discovered; the *Spanyard* hath not so much as once seated himselfe to make himselfe known, whereby there might bee any likelyhood that they had acknowledged him for their Sovereign. And for us to bleue that the *Spanyard* is Lord of such, whom he hath never seen nor knowen, nor they him, were a manifest sign of a strong faith in us. And there were no way for any man to make me beleue Miracles sooner, then by making me beleue this: for after the beliefe of this, I should never doubt of any miracle, though he should tell me a thousand in a day: So that if this title come not by consent of all in generall, he neither ought to write himselfe Lord of the whole Indies, nor debar other Christians from conquering or trading in those parts where the *Spanyard* hath neither residence nor Seigniorie, nor command. If he challenge right by conquest and consent, then must he claim no more, then he hath by conquest and consent obtained. As for example, all that part of the West Indies, which at this day is scatteringly inhabited by the *Spanyards* & *Portugals*, is almost contained in two Tropicks, excepting the two small Villages of *Saint Augustine* and *Helena* in *Florida*, the Prouince of new *Biscay* Northwards, and fve Villages or Townes neere the River of *Plate*, called *Santo Sprinto*, *Saint Anna*, the Citie

Citie of *Ascension*, Saint *Fee* and *Fuvirnan*, lyeth halfe way betwixt the mouth of the river of *Plate*, and the Mine of *Polossie*; and in the South Sea beyond the Tropick, in the Kingdome of *Chelix*, the Townes or Villages of *Coquenbo Persco*, Saint *Iago la impe: villa del Lago*. And therefore, if the *Spaniards* haue nothing to doe, any further; either to the Northward or to the Southward; what reason hath he to forbid any Nation to conquer or dwell there? But if hee should admit you, I think it not convenient that your Majesty should be so satisfied, for so should you doe your selfe, and other Christian Princes, great wrong: for his Townes and Castles are so divided, and such masses of land and Kingdome betwixt them, which he hath no right, nor dare to enter as being duely considered by your Majestie, hee ought not to claime no more, then he ought to claime the Kingdome of *France*, because his Fort of *Graneling* is of one side, and South *Arabia* on the other, *France* being in the midst between them; or to claime *France*, because his Frontiers in *Italy* bound it on the one side, and *Spaine*, on the other: or to claime the Iland of the *Venetians* and the *Turks* in *Levant*; for that *Cicilia* and *Sardinia*, and a few others belong to him, that stands in that sea: Or claime all the Lands or Shoares in *Barbarie* for that he hath a Castle or two in the *Straits*, and another in *Libia*. These Countries they never lay claime to, because they are in the eye of the Christian world; which would make us rise up in Armes against them for their foolish arrogancy, if they should pretend it: But in the unknowne parts, which haue been familiar unto us; whose light by the

iniquity of the time, and troublesome warres in these parts, haue to us been hidden, although to the Ancient well known, where they began their foolerie. Betwixt the Castle of *Argine* in *Libia*, and the Iland of *Macoa* in the river of *Canton*, in the Kingdom of *China*, the foolish *Portugals* say all is theirs, when many a hundred Kings (as absolute and powerfull in regard of people, as any King in these parts) dwelleth betwixt, and admit the *Portugals* by way of petition or bribes, to dwell in some place by the Sea side, and trafique with them; neither dare they lay claim to any Kingdome, but onely to such Fortresses, Factories and Villages, on the Sea side, as perforce and favour of the Iland they are permitted to dwell in, as most excellently appeareth by answer of *Charles* the fifth, made unto the Embassadours of *Portugal*, anno 1522, when they came to require and beseech him, that his subjects the *Spaniards*, might not trade nor commerce, as then they did, in the conquest or navigation of the *Portugals*; who after a most peremptory and noble answer of his part, told
 “them; he knew no reason, neither would he suf-
 “fer them, that his subjects should be prohibited free-
 “ly, to passe into any Country where the hope of gain
 “offereth it selfe; and that if the *Portugals* in the
 “cause of their Trade, should doe any violence to
 “any of his people, either in their persons or goods,
 “he would be revenged neerer home, meaning upon
 “the Kingdom of *Portugal*. With which answer, at
 that time, the *Lucitans* were forced to depart. Which
 answer, if it should please your Majestie to returne
 upon the *Castilians* themselves, at this time, I know no
 reason

reason how it can any way be bettered, having so good a president, as their own King against the *Portugals*, upon the same subject. But for the *Portugals*, where all their strength is seated, I mean upon the coast of *Malubor*, where they haue more Fortes and Castles then in all *India* besides; the Kings doe so pen and lock them up in their Garrisons and Fortes, as they can haue nothing the Countrie yeeldeth, but by their friendship procured by yearly bribes; As for example, to the King of *Cathate*, they pay an yearly tribute of 256000 Reis: to the King of *Pimenta* . . . Reis; to the mother of the King of *Pimenta* yearly 36000 Reis; to the King of *Pargnan* yearly 72000; to the King of *Manfata* yearly 72000 Reis. To *Carta Babua*, the proper name of a man of account upon the coast, an yearely tribute of 42000 Reis: to the *Teratates*, which are brethren and Kings, an yearly tribute of 72000 Reis. All which summes or tribute, are imposed upon the King, and Custome of goods, brought from these parts. As for their credit and reputation amongst these Heathens, it is so small, either for feare they haue of them, or loue they bear to them; that, when we, and the *Hollanders* pay no custome for goods bought and sold there, they make the *Portugals* pay 30 per hundred, we oeing free before their faces, and they paying before ours.

By this, your Majestie may well perceiue, what base account the Princes in those parts make of them there; and yet these vain-glorious Woodcocks, will be very angry with us, if we will not beleue, when they say, that all the *East Indies* is theirs, and they haue,

haue conquered it. In selfe manner (most renowned Sovereign) stand the Kings of the West *Indies*, with the *Spaniards*, both in the South sea, upon the Kingdom of *Gheley*, *Reta*, *Peru*, and others; as at this time is apparant by the Kings of *Cheley*, who hath within this few yeares beaten down the *Spaniard*, and wonne from them the Town of *Impetial*, wherein was wont to be placed and maintained, one of the greatest Garrisons of the South Sea; and not onely razed it to the ground, but likewise kild and driven the *Castilians* quite from them. Even so, upon the East and North part of the *Indies*, both upon the Coast of *Brazil*, with all the firm land upon the *Indies* from *Parabia* to *Cartagene*, the gulfe of *Vraba*, the gulfe of *Mexico*, and all alongst the Coast of *Bahana*, even to their Forts in *Florida*, they are in continuall warres, with the Kings and peoples of those lands. And surely under your Highness pardon, I am confident of this opinion, that it hath been a main policy of the Kings of *Spain*, for these many yeares, to keep us in continual warres one with another in these parts; or if not, to encourage us himselfe; whereby being forced to look to our home defences, wee might not haue meanes to discover these his invasions abroad, wherby he puts a mask before all the Princes eyes of Europe. And therefore since he is now laid open, and by no Nation so much as by your Majesties subjects of this land; I hope, for the prevention of future mischief against this State, as for other honourable respects, and prevalent Reasons, in challenging of that which is your own; or at least as much yours as his; you will not bee unmindfull

mindfull; which doubtlesse will not tend onely to the enlightning of many soules, which to this day haue sate in the shadow of death, but likewise lay a ground (as before said) for the safety and preservation of your States, Glorie, Person and Posterity, in despite of the Spanish treacheries in the time to come, which otherwise by no meanes, by the wit of mortall man can be prevented, as upon my life, by circumstances I will make apparant.

But least this field of reasoning whereinto I haue walked be too tedious unto your Highnesse, I will briefly end; referring my selfe to Argument with any one, against this mischievous and poysonous peace with *Spain*, which I doe see, cannot but proue very fatall to your Majestie and Common-wealth. And though I bee not called, yet considering I am your subject, I cannot forbear, in respect of my great and loyall affection to your Majestie, the Prince with the rest of the noble Issue, and my native Country, I cannot but presume to speake of such things, which I think now fit to be considered: especially at this time; even as *Mercarie Gat aner*, Chancellour of *Spain*, did against the peace that was concluded betwixt *Francis* the first, and *Charles* the Emperour his Master; for he seeing, that the Emperour was disposed to make peace with the said King, and to set him at liberty, and that the *Viceroy* of *Naples*, and all other the Lords of the Councell tended to the same, and although he knew, as I doe now, that his councell would not be accepted, yet failed he not to speak what he thought, but likewise refused, being great Lord Chancellour of *Spain*, to signe the Articles,

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which

which he defended with most excellent reasons, which reasons are well delivered, and with much grauity of speech by *Quiccardin*: in the oration of the said *Grataner*. But this event made it known, that the counsell of *Gataner* was most noble, most just, and grounded as well upon the high wisdom, as great zeale to the loue and good of his Country. For as soon as the King was at liberty, all the *Spaniards* wonderfull hopes that they expected of this peace, and all the *French* Kings great promises to them vanished into smoke, according to the opinion of that worthy Gentleman. And I know no reason (most noble Soueraign) that I being your subject, as hee was the King of *Spaines*, and loving you and my Country, as much as ever he did his, and having a subject of the same quality, to fear, as he did them; although I may well say, as much more danger to us by the *Spaniards*, if our peace be not built upon a sure foundation, then it could any way be unto them by the *French*. But to speak my opinion, make what Articles you will, and let them be guilded over with the fairest shew, either they, or those of their Faction (if you haue any about you) can devise; unlesse these foure be granted on their part to you, you can never make any sure peace with them: or at least such a peace, as if he haue the minde to breake he will haue the advantage of you. And *Phillip* "*Comines* saith, That for the many conclusions that hee hath seen in his time in the affaires of State, that it were inexcusable folly for a Prince, if he were able for to prevent it, to put himselfe under the power of another. I That your subjects may haue

of Spanish Practises.

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haue free accessse to the *Indies*, either to traffique or plant, where the *Spaniards* haue neither conquest, Seigniorie, nor tribute. 2 That he doe pull down all inquisition wheresoever your people shall resort in all his Dominions, and that the Customes be reduced to an ancient order. 3 That he shall never come with a main Army of Ships into these Seas, under colour of chasticing the *Hollanders*. 4 That it shall be as lawfull for your subjects to serue the States in warres against them, as it shall be to serue them against the States; these things accorded, your peace may be safe, otherwise not.

*A short view taken of Great Brittain,
and Spaine.*

HIS Majestie now is of more power then any his Predecessours; First, because our addition of dominion *Ireland*, is reduced to a more absolute state of obedience, and increase of revenue then heretofore. The footing wee had in *France*, was rather a greatnesse of trouble to us, then of strength; it was alwaies in division; it held us alwaies in continuall fluxe of treasure and bloud, we neuer attempted in the Front, but that attempted us in the Rear; which did both distract our Armies, and aggravate our charge: It is a Territory so separate from us by nature, as we could not advantage upon it, either for offences or reliefe, without the accessse of difficulty and charge that a State must undergoe, when it runnes the necessity of such an undertaking by sea, where the warre was bent upon a great Continent,

ment, a populous Nation, a plentifull Countrey, and intire in its selfe, and that can be succoured without passing the Seas: In these things we found such disadvantage, as haue been the undoing of our Expeditions in stead of departure of this broken Dominion we had in *France*, his Majestie hath brought another whole Kingdom to *England*, undevied from us in seate; from whence we haue these benefits. The back dore that was open in the assistance of our enemies, both to offend us, and divert our attempts from them, is now open to us, and his Majestie hath the key of it; it saveth us the mony and the men that we were forced to employ in a second Army for the withstanding the invasion on that side: and not saues it us onely, but renders it, to bestow in undertakings of profit, which we were wont to spend upon defences. We haue another valiant Nation to assist us, whose service in Low Countrie warres hath often, and alwaies, given this testimony of their affection and faithfulnessse, even in Queen *Elizabeths* time; that in every Nationall quarrell between us and others (which hath often happened, and very remarkeable betwixt us and the *French*) they haue voluntarily and brauely sided with us, making the danger common both to themselves and us; which was drawn out but particularly against the *English*. The joyning of *Scotland* hath made us an intire Iland, which by nature is the best fortification, and the most capable of all advantages of strength, that by Art can be added unto nature; wherby we may at one & the same time be able both to undertake any action abroad, and defend our selves

at home, without either much danger, or great cost. Secondly, by reason his Majestie hath the neighbourhood of the powerfullst nation by sea, that now is in the world, at his devotion: a people by nature more worthy of credit with us the any other; then use of whose neighbourhood our own histories will commend unto us, if we enquire of the ages past, even then when they wanted that power and knowledge in their industry, which they now haue, as well in matters of peace as warre, the memories of those times will tell us, that we seldome undertooke any great thing without them; in so much as our losse of *France*, may probably be in part imputed to the breach we suffred in their friendship: and though they were then of the same Religion with *England*, as likewise now they are, yet the present condition that we doe both of us stand in, for point of Religion, doth place us in an estate of better assurance with them, then the conditions of those times did; for then considering no main Nationall separation, in the Church Religion was, but a common bond unto them, and inclined them to particular side, where now it hath the motiue in it to make defence with, against an opposite Church, in such a Nation, as hath drawn both of us into one and the same cause in quarrell, as well of policie, as of Religion: And lastly, their Army is the best Millitary Schoole of the world, from whence our Land-services may be sufficiently appointed, at least with Officers.

Now for the hearts of our people, and the wealth of our Kingdome (though it may be some

of his Majesties ill-affected subjects could be willing we should distrust our own strength, when we receive these two points into our consideration) yet for the first; the occasion, wherof they haue derived from our difference in Religion, I may say the wrath of God hath been evident against them, in the confusion of their plots (One thinkes) it should be a horreur to them, for to think of attempting any farther that way; for those of them that haue made a covenant with bloud, wee stand not either in fear or need of their numbers, but we may both spare and suppress them: And farre be it from me to think, that many men of those that hold no communion in the Church with us, should giue other Nations the cause to say, that in *England* are the false men, that take up Gods weapons against him, and their own weapons against themselves, in favour of a forraign Ambition, that makes the pretence of Religion but a port hole to lay his Artillery out at, or his scaling ladder to assault by. Now the second point touching the wealth of the Kingdom, if I should call the Councell of *Spain* it selfe to giue judgement in the cause, I should need no better sentence to condemne their opinions, vwho thinke the King of Great *Brittain* poor; their Master knows it vvell enough, he shall finde it otherwise, vwhensoever hee shall undertake to attempt us, or vvee them.

Now for *Spain*, his Majestie there, though accounted the greatest Monarch of Christendome; yee his estate being enquired throughly, his roote vwill be found a great deale too narrow; for the top of
his

his Dominions are so farre in distance asunder, as they cannot giue reliefe time enough one to another upon an alarum; vvhich is the reason he is more povverfull to assault then defend, and therfore are compelled to haue continual Garrisons of that charge he is unable to maintain: he hath more to doe vvith shipping then any other Prince, and yet hath few men at his devotion, but by extreme charge, and those of vvorst sorts; his poverty hath therfore appeared in the mutenie of his Low Country Armie, for vvant of pay, vvvhich vvas great cause of his ill successe there; & I cannot see how his estate can be much better now then it vvas. For though it be true, that his charge is somevvhat lesse; yet it is likewise true, that his Subsidies in *Spain* be also diminished; as vvell in respect of insupportableness, as of indisposition of his Revenues out of the *Indies* decaied: And indeed but for his *Indies*, he vv ere the poorest Prince in Christendom. Now it serues the better for the finding his vveaknesse or strength, to inquire vvether he be able to stand upon the termes of defiance, and yet hold his *Indies*, I think not: for his Majestie of Great *Brittain*, joyning with the States of the Vnited Provinces, is of power to raise Armadoes, the one to block up *Spain*, the other the *Indies*; the least successe that may be hoped for out of this enterprise, the cutting off his returne would beggar him: the feare of this project was the thing that stopped his Greatnesse to the Vnited Provinces, when hee departed with his pretence of Sovereignty to them: and that feare is an Ague he is not yet cured of. This is a right design, and a great one, such a one, as I
wish

with we had the treasure, and valiant bloud of our Ancestors to bestow upon; for the expence wherof we haue nothing to shew now, but two poore Ilands *Jarsey* and *Garnsey*. And to say the truth in that case; if all the Ilands or Lands that belong unto the Crown of *England*, were offered to his Majestie, I should not giue my advice to receiue them, much lesse to conquer them. Now for the disposition of the Low Country men, I assure my selfe there cannot be a thing more desired, then they to joyn with his Majestie in any undertaking, especially in this: for they are forie they understood the King of *Spaines* weaknesse so little in *Queene Elizabeths* time, when her Majestie so much affected their joyning with her; and that now they know it, his Majestie being greater in power, will yet suffer such an enemy to all Christian Princes, chiefly to those of his Majesties Religion to creep into his bosome: For all the greatnesse he hath, he holds by the curtesie of his Majesty, (and to that end Courts it;) he knows he were undone else. To conclude, I will inferre some of the Reasons, that perswade to the undertaking of his design, the policy of *Spain* hath troden more bloudie steps then any State of Christendome; look into his Treaties, and his Negotiations of his Ministers abroad, you shall finde as much falshood in them, as bloud in the other: He never paid debt so truely, as those he imposed in corrupting of the Ministers of other Princes; He holds league with none, but to haue neerer access to doe him harme: a Match in kindred shal not hinder it when he apprehends his advantage: He disturbes all Christendom with his Alarums and
Arma-

Armadoes yearly ; and yet doth lesse hurt to Infidels and Pirats then any, unlesse it be to get wherewithall to arm himselfe the better against other Christian Princes ; and he hath an ambition to the whole Empire of Christendome. These are motiues wherin all Christian Princes are interess'd , so as with reason they cannot oppose the designe , nor will (I thinke the most of them) he hath brought himselfe into such an hatred with them. Let us, between his Majestie and the Vnited Provinces, consider how the particular causes of both Nations doe importunate us both to the undertaking thereof. Who hath been so thirsty of our blood as *Spain*? And who hath spilled so much as he? Who hath been so long our enemy? And who hath corrupted so many of our Nation as *Spain*? And that all with the help of gold, which by reason of the neglect of this Designe he doth still enjoy, tempting our weak ones, and our false ones withall. Would you finde a Traitor on a suddain? *Balaams Ass* will tell you where, at the Spanish Embassadours dore? And when? when they come from *Masse*, and otherwise. When to? when they Match with us. For his malice is so great he cannot hide ; nor will God (I hope) suffer it. Yet let us examine in reason : now if we be so charitable as to forget what is past, whether we may promise our selues assurance of his amity for the time to come or not? Because peace with a true neighbour is a condition to be embraced, nothing more certain then the contrary. We canot promise it his ambition to the Empire, so long as he holds the *Indies*, shal never die. The Vnited Provinces is an Object, which though he hath an eye to, yet he likes not.

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What other thing soever we communicate with him in, we shall never be assured of him (such is the nature of the Religion,) so long as we differ in matter of faith, he knowes very well the perill he stands in, if hee be attempted by his Majestie and the Vnited Provinces. Consider what suggestions these are to keep him thinking upon; and imagin then, what his own part will prompt him to doe vwhen he sees a time for it. He then to the end hurts, that he may not be prevented by the Enterprise. Now of the fittnesse and honour of it, to be in that undertaking of his Majestie, who is the greatest Ilander in Christendome, and therefore a Navie most proper to him: He is a Defender of the Faith, as well in understanding, learning and godlinesse, as in title; therefore in the planting of the true Church, there is a sacred work, that even by office, as it were, belongs unto him: He is of a great liberall minde, the *Indies* will affoord him meanes to exercise it. These Considerations, and the great multitude of his subjects, doe seem to invite him: and in every part, considerably in the Designe, we may finde something to perswade us, that it seems to be a kind of offer, both in Religion, Policy and Nature, preferred unto his Majestie; as the Prince for maitaining of it.

FINIS.

